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WASHINGTON, D. C., 1882.
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VOL. 5.—NO. 220.

HARRISBURG, PA:, MONDAY, MAY 18, 1863.

THE CHEAPEST PAPER PUBLISHED IN PENNSYLVANIA: AND

THE

Weekly "Patriot & Union,

THE ONLY DEMOCRATIC PAPER PUBLISHED AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT!

FORTY-FOUR COLUMNS OF READING MAT-TER EACH WEEK! AT THE LOW PRICE OF ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS!

WHEN SUBSCRIBED FOR IN CLUBS OF NOT LESS THAN TEN COPIES TO ONE ADDRESS:

We have been compelled to raise the club subscription price to one dollar and fifty cents in order to save ourselves from actual loss. Paper has risen, including taxes, about twenty-five per cent., and is still rising; and when we tell our Democratic friends, candidly, that we can no longer afford to sell the Weekly PATRICT AND Union at one dollar a year, and must add fifty cents or stop the publication, we trust they will appreciate our position, and, instead of withdrawing their subscriptions, go to work with a will to increase our list in every county in the State. We have endeavored, and shall continue our efforts, to make the paper useful as a party organ, and welcome as a news messenger to every family. We flatter ourselves that it has not been without some influence in producing the glorious revolution in the politics of the State achieved at the late election; and if fearlessness in the discharge of duty, fidelity to the principles of the party, and an anxious desire to promote its interests, with some experience and a moderate degree of ability, can be made serviceable hereafter, the Waskly Parrior and Union will not be less useful to the party or less welcome to the family circle in the future than it has been in the past. We confidently look for increased encouragement in this great enterprise. and appeal to every influential Democrat in the State to lend us his aid in running our supscription list up to twenty or thirty thousand. The expense to each individual is triffing, the benefit to the party may be great. Believing that the Democracy of the State feel the necessity of sustaining a fearless central organ, we make this appeal to them for assistance with the fullest confi-

dence of success. The same reasons which induce us to raise the price of the Weekly, operate in regard to the Daily paper, the price of which is also increased. The additional cost to each subscriber will be but trifling; and, while we cannot persuade ourselves that the change necessarily made will result in any diminution of our daily circulation, yet, were we certain that such would be the consequence, we should still be compelled to make it, or suffer a ruinous loss. Under these circumstances we must throw ourselves upon the generosity, or, rather, the justice of the public, and abide their verdict, whatever it may be.

The period for which many of our subscribers have paid for their paper being on the eve of expiring, we take the liberty of issuing this notice, reminding them of the same, in order that they may

RENEW THEIR CLUBS.

We shall also take it as an especial favor if our present subscribers will urge upon their neighbors the fact that the PATRIOT AND Union is the only Democratic paper printed in Harrisburg, and considering the large amount of reading matter, embracing all the current news of the day, and

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES From everywhere up to the moment the paper goes to press, political, miscellaneous, general and local news market reports, is decidedly the CHEAPEST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN

THE STATE! There is scarcely a village or town in the State in which a club cannot be raised if the proper exertion be made, and surely there are few places in which one or more energetic men cannot be found who are in favor of the dissemination of sound Democratic doctrines, who would be willing to make the effort to raise a club.

DEMOCRATS OF THE INTERIOR! Let us hear from you. The existing war, and the approaching sessions of Congress and the State Legislature, are invested with unusual interest, and every man

should have the news. DAILY PATRIOT AND UNION.

Single copy for one year, in advance......\$5 00 Single copy during the session of the Legislature. 200 City subscribers ten cents per week. Copies supplied to agents at the rate of \$1 50 per hun-

WREKLY PATRIOT AND UNION, Published every Thursday.

Ten copies to one address......15 00 Subscriptions may commence at any time. PAY AL-WAYS IN ADVANCE. We are obliged to make this imperative. In every instance cash must accompany subscription. Any person sending us a club of twenty subscribers to the Weekly will be entitled to a copy for his services. The price, even at the advanced rate is so low that we cannot offer greater inducements than this. Additions may be made at any time to a club of subscribers by remitting one dollar and fifty cents for each additional name. It is not necessary to send us the names of those constituting a club, as we cannot undertake to address each paper to club subscribers separately. Specimen copies of the Weekly will be sent to all who desire it.

O. BARRETT & CO., Harrisburg, Pa. N. B.—The following law, passed by Congress in 1860, lefines the duty of Postmasters in relation to the delivery of newspapers to club subscribers:

(See Lettle, Brown & Co.'s edition of the Laws of 1860, page 38, chapter 131, section 1.)

reprovided, however, that where packages of new papersor periodicals are received at any post office directed to one address, and the names of the club subscribers to which help belong, with the postage for a quarter in advance, shall be handed to the postmaster, he shall deliver the same to their respective owners."

To enable the Postmaster to comply with this regulation, it will be necessary that he be furnished with the list of names composing the club, and paid a quarter's (or year's) postage in advance. The uniform courtesy of Postmasters, affords the assurance that they will cheerfully accommodate club subscribers, and the latter should take care that the postage, which is but a trifle in each case, be paid in advance. Send on the clubs

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The undersigned informs the public that he has recently renovated and refitted his well-known "Union Hotel" on Ridge avenue, near the Round House, and is prepared to accommodate citizens, strangers and travel ers in the best style, at moderate rates.

His table will be supplied with the best the maskets afford, and at his bar will be found superior brands of liquors and malt beverages. The very best accommodations for railroaders employed at the shops in this vicinity.

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WAR! WAR!—BRADY, No. 62
Market street, below Third, has received a large
assortment of Swoeds, Sashes and Belts, which he
will sell very low. will sell very low. HAMS, DRIED BEEF, BOLOGNA SAUSAGES, TONGUES, &c., for sale low, by WM. DOCK, JR., & f.

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The Patriot & Union.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1863.

HON. REVERDY JOHNSON ON THE PEACE CONVENTION.

Washington, May 13, 1863.

To the Editors of the Journal of Commerce: I am obliged to you for the copy of Mr. Da-VID DUDLEY FIELD's letter to you, of the 21st of April last, published in your paper of the succeeding day.

In the present condition of the country no advantage perhaps can be gained by recalling 'the history of the Peace Convention," but as Mr. F. has thought fit to do so, it is proper that the fact which he states in regard to it if erroneous should be corrected. As one of the members named by him as having been satisfied with "the peace conference," I avail myself of the first leisure, to give the fact as it was. This will be done with no view to call in question the purposed accuracy of Mr. FIELD, but to set myself right with those who may feel an interest in the subject. For this purpose a few preliminary remarks are necessary. The Convention assembled, at the instance of Virginia, through resolutions passed by her General Assembly, on the 19th of January, 1861. Their preamble sets forth as "the deliberate opinion" of that body, that "unless the unhappy controversy which so divides the States and a part of the Southern members (I was of of the confederacy shall be satisfactorily adjusted, a permanent dissolution of the Union is

inevitable. In this conviction the most, if net all, of the Southern States were believed to concur, and also very many of the discerning and reflecting citizens of the Northern States. Evidence of this was found in the debates in Congress, discussions on the hustings, in the public press and in many of the pulpits of the country. However unjustifiable, as things then were, (if the desired adjustment was not obtained,) a severance of the Union by force would be esteemed by the intelligent patriotism of the country, it was yet manifest from their antecedents, that there were men, North and South, who looked to such a result, not only without regret, but with hope and gladness. They were doubtless few in each section, but they were zealous, reckless and fanatical, and needed only, to succeed, topics with which to delude and madden the mind of the honest masses around them. These, all good loyal men were solicitous to deprive them of, and hence they were most anxious to place slavery, the chief cause of mischief, beyond their reach. That the danger existed, not only manifested itself, in the manner before stated, but every proposition offered in the peace convention, whether by Northern or Southern delegates, disclosed it.

1st. The nature of the seven amendments to the Constitution, reported by a majority of the committee of which Mr. Guthrie was chairman, implied it.

2d. The minority report by Mr. Baldwin, of Connecticut, in terms almost, stated it. The preamble of resolutions recommended by him aid, "Whereas, unhappy differences exist which have alienated from each other, portions of the people of the United States, to such an extent as seriously to disturb the peace of the na-

The principle of legal nullification, asserted by Mr. Calhoun in 1828, in a carefully prepared paper which was made the foundation of the nullifying ordinance of his State, of 1832, was maintained in part, if not mainly, on the authority of the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions of 1798-9. The folly of the doctrine, its utter inconsistency with the very words and objects of the Constitution, were so obvious that neither the intellectual acuteness with which its author supported it, nor the influence of his previously well earned fame, nor the persuasive authority of the great names of Jefferson and Madison, could save it from almost universal condemnation in every State except that of its origin, and from the condemnation of the purest, brightest, and ablest minds of South Carolina herself. One of these, James L. Pettigrew, but recently taken from us, to the deep regret of the nation, undismayed by the intense treason and frantic violence around him, safe from their danger by the shield of his spotless character, his stern courage and lofty patriotism, to the very last of his stay on earth, retained and boldly avowed his perfect loyalty to the government. Too wise to be led astray by the shallow fallacies of the Rhetts and Yanceys of the hour, and too devoted to the happiness of his State and country, to take any other course, he clung to the faith of our fathers, and boldly denounced the treason, to which these conspirators invited, and by which they have, to their ruin, led their deluded followers.

The doctrine therefore soon fell into general disrepute, and was finally, and to the gratification of the country, extinguished by the matchless power and eloquence of Webster, and the stern patriotism and indomitable will of Jackson. It was demonstrated by Mr. Madison, himself, whose mind remained as clear as sunlight, in several letters in 1831-2, to be utterly untenable, and with no warrant either in the resolutions of '98-9, or in the report, the work of his own pen, made in defense of those of Virginia. This heresy exploded, the other kindred and as gross and more purnicious one of secession was substituted. But this at first met with little favor. In fact it slept unheeded. A portion, however, of its votaries designed at the first opportunity to make it work certain mischief, and for mischief only was it suited. The tariff no longer furnishing this opportunity, the plan was "to fire the Southern heart," and drive the Southern mind to madness by slavery agitation. The institution was so connected with their domestic comfort and so vital, as they thought, to their material wealth, was of such long and undisturbed standing and so clearly recognized and proas they believed, of their prosperity and political power, and above all, its sudden terminaview those in the South greatly exaggerated the prevalence of Northern hostility, whilst those in the North did all they could to aid them. Whether by arrangement or not, they were in fact the allies of each other. They worked for the same end, and by the same means-slavery agitation. It was the conduct of these comparatively few men that brought the country to the condition in which it was generally believed to be when the peace convenwould terminate, if not satisfactorily settled, opinion. Fortunately for her honor, her in. enterprise may prove renumerative.

as solemnly declared in the resolutions under which the convention assembled, "in a permenent dissolution of the Union." The conservative members of the convention reflecting as I then believed, and now believe, the sincere wish of a large majority of the people of every State represented, earnestly desired to satisfy the South that the institution would not be interfered with, and on the contrary, that their rights in relation to it would be faithfully observed in the present and securely protected in the future. With this object they wished to give the South, without impairing any rights vested in the North, such guarantees, which, although implied as they thought, in the Constitution as it is, would, if given in terms, quiet the Southern mind and deprive the treasonable agitators North and South of the only subjects on which they could hope to make themselves what they were evidently about to be, the architects of their country's ruin. To accomplish this, however, as the Con-

vention possessed but a moral power, it was

PRICE TWO CENTS.

obvious that unanimity of opinion was vital -Recommendations by a bare majority, it was almost hopeless to believe, could produce a happy result. In the Committee, to whom the whole subject was referred, and at whose head was place Mr. Guthrie, of Kentucky, and of which Mr. Field was a member, efforts to this end were made again and again, but in vain. And what was finally agreed upon and reported, met with the sanction of but a bare majority of the Committee, Mr. Field not being one of that majority. The discussions, in every meeting of the Committee, were earnest, the number) implored their Northern brethren to agree to something that there was any reason to believe would be satisfactory to the South. I saw then that unanimity could alone render the propositions of the Committee effective. I also saw, and, as the result has proved, that no satisfactory adjustment atsained, an attempt at least would be made to sever the Union. Not that I believe for a moment that such an attempt could find any warrant in the Constitution, or be justly maintained on revolutionary grounds, and still less, that if timely and vigorously met, it could be successful. But I believed that the long plotting traitors would succeed in misleading the honest masses, and in driving them on to destruction, through the madness and wickedness of treasonable rebellion, by filling them with a conviction that the institution of slavery would be assailed, and all the fatal consequences which they apprehended from it ensue. All the Southern and many of the Northern members of the Convention thought that satisfactory guarantees should be offered the South, and that to make the recommendation of the Convention effective, the proposition should receive unanimous support. That done, we were convinced that the South would see that their enemies in the North constituted but a small portion of its people, pos-sessing no power to be dreaded, and that public opinion there was sound, and desired to secure the South in all its rights, and protecting them against the wrongs and perils with which they were threatened. In this view many of the Northern delegates concurred. Of those from New York, all concurred, but a bare majority, Mr. Field being, I regret to say, one of that majority. He, and they who acted with him, advocated Mr. Baldwin's proposal for a National Convention. In vain were they told by every Southern member that such a proposition would be in that it would practically have no healing effect whatever, but on the contrary, would, under the circumstances, be esteemed mere trifling.

In the then temper of the States they were

also told, what seemed to us to be obvious,

that it was more than doubtful whether such

convention could be constitutionally procured,

and certain, if it was had, that no guarantees

that the South would consider sufficient would

be recommended. Had the New York dele-

gates adopted a different course-had they

spoken with one voice in favor of the Guthrie

report (so justly potential as that voice ever

is.) I believed then, and believe now, that the

desired unanimity in support of the report

could have been obtained, and that Congress

would have acted upon it at its then session

or if not, that the South would have felt such

an assurance of security in the recommendation

of the convention, that no immediate attempt

at rebellion would have been made. But, from a want of foresight, as I thinkfrom a blindness to the danger that was before them-that voice was not spoken. The majority of her delegates, so far from speaking it, resolved on an opposite course, and were active and most influential in defeating the so much desired, the so vital manimity, in support of any guarantees that the Southern members and many of the Northern members thought would alone meet the crisis. Their mistake (and a dreadful one it was,) was because, perhaps without being aware of it, they were under party rather than national influences. They were too, it seemed to me, under the further and as sad error of believing that the South was not in earnest; and that from fear, or other motive, they would not venture on rebellion. They maintained therefore, throughout, their opposition to the proposed Guthrie guarantees, and were equally hostile to any that their Southren brethren over and over again offered; and in terms of earnest invocation implored them, adopting solicitation that would have been esteemed. and truly, undignified, but for the great issue that they felt to be impending-civil WAR;a war between brothers-a war that would sunder ties the holiest that had ever bound people together-a war to be attended with dreadful misery—the destruction of our prosperity for untold ages-the loss of our proud station amongst the nations of the world, and probably the total extinguishment for years, if But entreaty proved as fruitless as argu-

not forever, of our very freedom itself. ment. The resolutions containing the guarantees passed the Convention, but only by a mere majority, and, as foreseen, they resulted in tected by the Constitution itself, and had not only been the cause of danger, but the source gress. They imparted not even temporary assurance of safety to the anxious South; and now the so much dreaded civil war is upon tion would, in their judgment, be so fruitful of us. Oh! that its existence, its frightful proeven the direct calamities, that to approach it gress, its millions of wasted wealth, its effect with that end, was sure to produce the stern- upon our national reputation, and above all, est determination to resist the effort at all ha- | the agony which it has brought into thousands zards, and to break, if it could not be other- and thousands of before happy householdswise successfully accomplished, even the ties could then have been foreseen by Mr. Field, of association, of fraternal affection and of love and those who concurred with him! Any honof country, which, until then, had been a universal national sentiment and a fountain of fered-guarantees that would in no particular national power. The plotters on both sides, have surrendered or impaired the rights of the who had long wished and meditated a destruc- North—would, I doubt not, have been received tion of the Union for that purpose, eagerly with joyous acclamation; and we should still caught at every chance to present and fan into be, as we were once, a united and, therefore, flame this fruitful topic of mischief. With that a happy, prosperous and powerful peopleable to hear, with naught but contemptuos pity, the insolence and vulgar sourrility of the English Roebucks of the day, whose fermer professed and hypocritical hatred of slavery they are now yielding to the base love of avaricious gain, too strong not only for all moral restraint, but even for the restraint of their own penal laws.

Let us not, however, for a moment permit tion assembled, a condition which it was thought of the English character, or speak English tine. At \$25 dollars a barrel it is thought the

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terest and her safety, and her influence upon the civilization and freedom of Europe, they are as unlike the gentlemen and statesman of that great country, as our peculators and blockade runners are unlike our honest and loyal citizens. They are, in truth, themselves but the upstarts of the kingdom if, as is justly remarked by one of their most esteemed and gifted historic writers, "arrogance and presumption be the usual faults" of the class.

From what I have said, you will see that Mr. Field is totally mistaken in supposing that the Peace Conference satisfied me, or, as I have every reason to know, satisfied either of the other members named by him. The guarantees recommended in Mr. Guthrie's report were satisfactory, but the conduct of the Convention, resulting in a great measure from Mr. Field's course, rendered the Convention itself anything but satisfactory. We saw in it, as the result proved, certain defeat in Congress of the recommended guarantees, and saw, with equal clearness, that the result of its deliberations would not, for a moment, suspend even the perilous excitement of the Southern mind or avert the calaminy it involved. But the errors of the past cannot be corrected. We can only learn from them wisdom for the fu-

ture. What does that teach us? Is it, that no Union feeling is now to be found in the Southern States? Is it that it is so totally extinct that to revive it is impossible? I do not think so. The Guthries and Wickliffes, the Joneses, the Rodneys and the Bates the Rives and the Summers, the Ruffins and the Moreheads, and the thousands and thousands who united with them, still have in their hearts, as pure as ever, love of the Union which their fat thers constructed. Satisfy them that, the war ended, that Union will be as it was intended to be, and was before treason and fanaticism involved us in the existing frightful struggle, and much, very much, will be done to bring the struggle to an end, and to restore our former nationality. We shall then, too, know each other the better, and value each other the more. Courage has been found a common possession-mistakes as to character corrected -love of freedom is seen to be equally sincere, and we shall be more firmly convinced than we have ever been that Union, under all the guarantees of personal and State rights which our fathers provided, can alone make us what they intended and believed they had accomplished through their blood and wisdom-the freest and the happiest, and one of the most influential nations of the world.

With great regard, your obedient servant. REVERDY JOHNSON.

SPIRIT OF THE STATE PRESS.

ON ITS FEET AGAIN. -Our readers will remember that on the morning of the President's fast day a mob, under the direction and instigation of the "Union League," attacked the office of the Mentor, at Kittanning, scattering its type about the streets and destroying its fixtures. It reappears, however, on the 7th inst., looking as good as new. Its tone is vigorous and determined as ever. Speaking of the feeling which prevailed in the community after the outrage, it says:

On the morning after the outrage committed on our office, the corners of the main streets were thronged with an excited crowd; or, ere were several crow existed affinity of taste or feeling to attract. The Democrats, of course, were indignant, and bold in their denunciation of the crime. Many, too, of the Republicans showed their deep regret at what had happened, and were equally emphatic in their condemnation of the act.-But these were that portion of the party that give it any claim to respectability; they pay their taxes, vote their tickets, but when an office is to be filled have to give place to some low doggery-patronizing politician. They have no influence, or very little, in making nominations or shaping the policy of that party. What a pity, thought we, that these good men should commit the fatal mistake. both to themselves and us. of remaining in. or sustaining, in the slightest degree, so corrupt and destructive an organization.

But there was another portion of the Republican party that not only had no word of condemnation, but actually gloated over the shameful outrage. And these were far more numerous than the former, and included the low, vulgar, beastly gang, that congregate about the vile whisky shops with which our town is cursed; and the mean, sneaking, whining curs, with money and without money, but always without manners or brains, who love a crime, but are too cowardly to commit, an aggressive one; and the saintly hypocrite, who said it was all wrong, but who inwardly chuckled over the violation of the sacred rights of the citizen, himself included; if he had only sense enough, or prejudice little enough, to let him see it.

In commenting upon the same outrage, the Venango Spectator well and truly says:

We have no reply, personally, to make to threats. We shall do our duty to our country, her Constitution and her laws, and the Government under these. To us our country is, as large to-day as when the thirty-four stars upon her flag were symbolic of a free, happy and united people,—before the Greeleys, the Sumners and the Phillipses of the North, and the Davises, the Rhetts and the Yanceys of the South had fanned the flame of sectional hatred into a blaze and transformed our national paradise into a hell. We hope to see that old flag waving over the same territoryover the same cherished Union our fathers. formed-the same Constitution that Washington signed-and the rights of every member of the Confederacy, unimpaired, for transmission to the generations who are to succeed us. This is all the Democratic party wants-all that the conservative masses of the people re-

Have the leaders of the Abolition party who educate their ignorant followers up to the point of destroying Democratic presses, reflected seriously upon their course? When they appeal to violence and murder-when they invoke anarchy and strife, do they hope to enjoy a gentle pastime and find only a subject for congratulation? God help the idiots who would inaugurate such a state of things in this community! Or do they only talk robbery and outrage for talk's sake? If so, such talk is dangerous, and may lead to results which they will bewail in sackcloth and ashes.

Freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the right to assemble and discuss all question of national policy in this country, are rights that bigoted, fanatical leaders can crush only when people are ready for the yoke of a dictator.

A single meal at one of the Richmond restaurants-a beef steak, one dozen oysters, and coffee, costs \$5. A partridge, \$1 25. Apples 25 cents each. A pair of boots, at Tullahoma brought \$75.

Parties at Sandwich, Mass., have bought and hired several thousand pine trees, intendourselves to believe that such men are types | ing to tap them the present season for turpen-